

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT M 00289 240924Z
ACTION EA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3085

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FOR EA - OAKLEY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP PP
SUBJECT: VISIT TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA

1. IN VIEW OF YOUR PLANS TO VISIT PAPUA NEW GUINEA SOME TIME THIS YEAR, I WANT TO LET YOU KNOW THAT APRIL 25 IS A DATE YOU SHOULD CONSIDER. ON THAT DATE THE US WILL OFFICIALLLY PRESENT A PLAQUE COMMEMORATING THE SERVICES OF CONSTABLE SEGA TO US MILITARY FORCES IN WORLD WAR II. SEGA RECEIVED THE BRONZE STAR, THE HIGHEST AWARD GIVEN ANY PAPUA NEW GUINEANS IN WWII, FROM GENERAL MACARTHUR. THE CEREMONY WILL INCLUDE A LARGE SING SING WITH MANY VILLAGERS IN TRIBAL COSTUME AND WILL BE HELD IN GARAINA, MOROBE PROVINCE IN THE BOWUTU MOUNTAINS.

2. I WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO HAVE YOU HERE FOR THE CEREMONY, WHICH SHOULD BE COLORFUL AND A MEMORABLE OCCASION. WOULD BE SUITABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR SHORT SPEECH ON US/PNG RELATIONS, WITH APPROPRIATE REFERENCES TO WORLD WAR II.

3. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO COME AT THAT TIME, PLEASE PASS THE WORD OTHERS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED: ERLAND HEGINBOTHAM, ED HURWITZ, PAT DERIAN, JIM FREE IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND OTHERS HAVE SAID THEY HOPE TO VISIT PNG
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IN 1978. WE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO HAVE SOMEONE COME FROM WASHINGTON FOR THIS CELEBRATION.
OLMSTED
BT
#0289

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